

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 BERLIN 05585 01 OF 02 240928Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15
USIA-06 SCS-03 SCA-01 DHA-02 CU-02 ORM-02 ACDA-07
IO-13 /088 W
-----240953Z 072470 /12

P R 231610Z MAR 77
FM AMEMBASSY BERLIN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 4369
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN
USMISSION USBERLIN UNN

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 1 OF 2 BERLIN 5585

E.O.11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR, US, GE
SUBJECT: LUNCH WITH DEPUTY FOREIGN MINISTER GRUNERT

REF: A) BERLIN 5535; B) STATE 061229

SUMMARY

APART FROM A GENTLE BUT CLEAR ADMONITION THAT THE EMBASSY SHOULD OBSERVE " APPROPRIATE REGULATINS" IN EXTENDING INVITATIONS TO OFFICIAL FUNCTIONS; A PRO-FORMA COMPLAINT ABOUT OUR WITHHOLDING VISAS FOR GDR TECHNICIANS; AND AN EXPRESSION OF CONERN ABOUT PRESIDENT CARTER'S HUMAN RIGHTS STAND, DEPUTY FOREIGN MINISTER GRUNERT DID NOT HAVE MUCH TO SAY AT LUNCH MARCH 21. CHARGE RAISED ITEMS IN REFTELS (WITH EXCEPTION OF HARTMAN VISIT) WE WANTED TO COVER, AND RECEIVED ESSENTIALLY NON-COMMITTAL REPLIES. GRUNERT DID, HOWEVER, EXPRESS SOME INTEREST IN MOVING US/GDR RELATIONS FORWARD. END SUMMARY

1. DURING DISCUSSION OF ADEQUCY OF NEW CHANCERY FACILIITES, GRUNERT TOOK INITIATIVE TO SAY THAT, IN
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 BERLIN 05585 01 OF 02 240928Z

THE ABSENCE OF AN AGREEMENT ON READING ROOMS, CULTURAL CENTERS, THE GDR EXPECTED WE WOULD ABDIE BY APPROPRIATE VIENNA CONVENTION AND GDR REGULATIONS IN INVITING GUESTS TO OFFICIALY SPONSORED FUNCTIONS IN INVITING GUESTS OT OFFICIALY SPONSORED FUNCTIONS AT THE CHANCERY. WHILE HE DID NOT SAY SO, IT WAS CLEAR THIS WAS INTENDED TO BE GDR REJOINDER TO CHARGE'S REMARK AT FEBRUARY 28

OPENING THAT LIBRARY FACILITIES WOULD BE OPEN TO INTERESTED GDR CITIZENS. IN RESPONSE TO CHARGE'S REQUEST FOR CLARIFICATION, GRUNERT SAID THE NORMAL PRACTICE WAS FOR EMBASSIES TO SEND INVITATIONS THROUGH MFA PROTOCOL SECTION FOR DELIVERY TO GUESTS INVITED FROM OFFICIAL INSTITUTIONS. CHARGE NOTED WE HAD SENT A NUMBER OF INVITATIONS -- SOME TO OFFICIALS, OTHERS TO CULTURAL PERSONALITIES EITHER THROUGH MFA OR DIRECTLY -- IN CONNECTION WITH CHANCERY OPENING, AND THAT PEOPLE HAD COME. GRUNERT EXPRESSED SOME MILD SURPRISE THAT CULTURAL FIGURES HAD ATTENDED, BUT DID NOT PURSUE THE SUBJECT. COMMENT: IN THE CONTEXT OF GRUNERT'S REMARKS IT WAS OBVIOUS HE WAS NOT SUGGESTING THAT BOTH SIDES UNDERTAKE, NOW OR IN THE NEAR FUTURE, TO OPEN TALKS ON CULTURAL CENTERS. IT IS ALSO CLEAR WE WILL HAVE TO LOOK CAREFULLY AT HOW WE HANDLE QUESTION OF INVITATIONS TO EAST GERMAN CONTACTS TO FUNCTIONS AT EMBASSY IN A WAY THAT WILL SERVE OUR PURPOSES WITHOUT, AT THE SAME TIME, CREATING PROBLEMS FOR EMBASSY. END COMMENT.

2. LONG-TERM VISAS

GRUNERT SAID GDR COULD NOT UNDERSTAND US POSITION OF MIXING POLITICAL AND COMMERCIAL MATTERS BY DENYING VISAS FOR GDR TECHNICIANS BECAUSE OF OUR STAND ON "WEST BERLIN" AND WONDERED WHETHER US WANTED TO SEE STAGNATION IN RELATIONS. CHARGE NOTED WE DID NOT WANT TO SEE STAGNATION IN OUR RELATIONS AND WISHED TO MOVE AHEAD IN SPECIFIC AREAS OF MUTUAL INTEREST. AT SAME

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 BERLIN 05585 01 OF 02 240928Z

TIME, RECENT GDR ACTIONS AROUND BERLIN AND THEIR STATEMENTS ABOUT STATUS OF CITY CAUSED US CONCERN AND, IF CONTINUED, COULD NOT BUT HAVE NEGATIVE EFFECTS ON OUR RELATIONS. OUR POSITION ON ISSUANCE OF LONG-TERM VISAS TO GDR TECHNICIANS WAS A RESULT OF RECENT GDR ACTIONS. CHARGE REITERATED THAT, DESPITE THIS ISSUE, WE WISHED TO MOVE FORWARD IN THOSE AREAS WHERE MUTUAL INTEREST EXISTED. GRUNERT LISTENED, BUT MADE NO SERIOUS ATTEMPT TO RESPOND.

3. CONSULAR CONVENTION

CHARGE RAISED ISSUE ALONG LINES OF REFTELS. GRUNERT REPEATED POINT HE HAD MADE EARLIER (BERLIN 5092) THAT GDR WAS LOOKING FOR WAY TO TAKE NOTE OF FACT THAT USG HAD NOT RECOGNIZED FRG CLAIM TO REPRESENT ALL GERMANS WHILE AT SAME TIME NOT CREATING PRECEDENT THAT WOULD COMPLICATE GDR CONSULAR CONVENTION NEGOTIATIONS WITH OTHER WEST EUROPEAN GOVERNMENTS. GRUNERT MENTIONED POSSIBLE ANNEXES OR LETTERS TO CONVENTION,

SAYING MATTER WAS STILL UNDER DISCUSSION. CHARGE SAID
WE WOULD LOOK CAREFULLY AT ANYTHING THEY MAY WISH TO
PROPOSE.

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 BERLIN 05585 02 OF 02 240948Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15
USIA-06 SCS-03 SCA-01 DHA-02 ORM-02 CU-02 ACDA-07
IO-13 /088 W

-----240951Z 072715 /12

P R 231610Z MAR 77
FM AMEMBASSY BERLIN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 4370
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN
USMISSION USBERLIN UNN

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 2 OF 2 BERLIN 5585

4. CLAIMS

GRUNERT TOOK NOTE OF OUR INTEREST IN MOVEMENT ON
CLAIMS ISSUE, AND PARTICULARLY THE SUGGESTION THA
WE WOULD BE PREPARED TO SEND OR RECIEVE EXPERTS TO
EXPLORE HOW WE MIGHT PROCEED. IN RESPONSE TO GRUNERT'S
QUESTION, CHARGE SAID POSSIBLE EXPERTS MEETINGS WOULD
NOT BE NOGOTIATINS THEMSELVES, BUT AN EFFORT TO
DETERMINE HOW WE COULD MOVE AHEAD ON SUCH MATTERS AS
DOCUMENTATION IN PREPARATION FOR EVENTUAL NEGOTIATIONS.

5. HUMANITARIAN CASES

CHARGE RAISED THIS ISSUE ALONG LINES OF REFTELS, WITH
PARTICULAR EMPHASIS ON OUR CONCERN ABOUT RECENT GDR
TREATMENT OF EMERGENCY FAMILY VISITS. GRUNERT
TOOK NOTE, ADDING ONLY THAT GDR LOOKS INTO CASES AND
DOES WHAT IT CAN. CHARGE DREW GRUNERT'S ATTENTION TO
LIKELIHOOD OF INCREASED US OFFICIAL AND PUBLIC INTEREST
IN SUCH CASES AND HOW GDR HANDLES THEM.

6. CSCE

CHARGE EXPRESSED OUR SERIOUS INTEREST IN HAVING
RESPONSE ASAP FROM GDR TO PROPOSALS WE HAD MADE IN
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 BERLIN 05585 02 OF 02 240948Z

JANUARY FOR BILATERAL IMPLEMENTATION OF VARIOUS SECTIONS OF CSCE FINAL ACT. WE WOULD ALSO LIKE TO HAVE GDR SUGGESTIONS. GRUNERT ASSERTED OUR PROPOSALS WERE STILL BEING CONSIDERED. HE NOTED THAT PLANNING AND BASIC QUESTIONS SECTION CHIEF BOCK WAS NOT LONGER ON THE JOB BECAUSE HE WAS PREPARING TO TAKE AN AMBASSADORIAL ASSIGNMENT, AND THAT KRABATSCH WAS ACTING. GRUNERT GAVE NO INDICATION, HOWEVER, WHEN WE COULD EXPECT REPLY. HE DID NOT RAISE QUESTION OF EXPERTS MEETING OR OF HARTMAN VISIT, AND NEITHER DID CHARGE.

7. CULTURAL RELATIONS

CHARGE MADE POINTS IN PARA 2G OF REF B RE US CONSIDERATION OF GDR CULTURAL SUGGESTIONS. GRUNERT RESPONDED BY SAYING HE UNDERSTOOD LIMITED ROLE OF USG IN SUCH MATTERS. HE ADDED THAT GDR HOPES TO BE ABLE TO SEND DELEGATION, HEADED BY DEPUTY MINISTER OF HIGHER EDUCATION, FOR MID-APRIL NEGOTIATION WITH IREX. CHARGE EXPRESSED PLEASURE OVER THIS DEVELOPMENT AND URGED GRUNERT TO HAVE APPROPRIATE GDR OFFICIAL INFORM THEIR US COUNTERPARTS RE SPECIFIC DATES ASAP SO THAT EFFECTIVE ARRANGEMENTS COULD BE MADE. HE SAID HE THOUGHT OFFICIAL WORD WOULD BE FORTHCOMING IN ABOUT A WEEK.

8. PROPERTY EXCHANGES

CHARGE MENTIONED THIS MATTER AND GRUNERT SAID HE WOULD LOOK INTO IT.

9. HUMAN RIGHTS

GRUNERT EXPRESSED SOME CONCERN ABOUT PRESIDENT'S CARTER'S STAND ON HUMAN RIGHTS AND IMPACT THIS COULD HAVE ON DETENTE, US/SOVIET RELATIONS, AND CONSEQUENTLY US/GDR RELATIONS. CHARGE NOTED THAT THE PRESIDENT BELIEVES VERY STRONGLY IN HUMAN RIGHTS, THAT THIS POLICY IS NOT DIRECTED AGAINST ANY SPECIFIC COUNTRY, THAT HE WISHED

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 BERLIN 05585 02 OF 02 240948Z

TO PURSUE IMPORTANT NEGOTIATIONS WITH THE USSR, AS EVIDENCED BY SECRETARY VANCE'S FORTHCOMING TRIP TO MOSCOW, AND THAT THE PRESIDENT HAD JUST EXPRESSED HIMSELF ON US FOREIGN POLICY AT THE UN. GRUNERT SAID HE HAD SEEN EXCERPTS, AND ASKED THE EMBASSY TO SEND HIM A COPY OF THE TEXT, WHICH HAS BEEN DONE, ALONG WITH COPIES TO THE MFA'S UN AND USA SECTION CHIEFS.

10. VANCE-FISCHER UNGA MEETING

CHARGE SAID HE WOULD TRANSMIT GRUNERT'S REMARK ABOUT THE GDR'S HOPE THAT A MEETING COULD BE ARRANGED THIS FALL, EITHER IN NEW YORK OR WASHINGTON, BETWEEN SECRETARY VANCE AND FOREIGN MINISTER FISCHER AT THE TIME THE UNGA MEETS.

11. COMMENT:

GRUNERT DID EXPRESS SOME INTEREST IN MOVING AHEAD IN US/GDR RELATIONS, ALTHOUGH WITHOUT SEEMING ENTHUSIASM. THIS MAY JUST BE HIS MANNER. AT ANY RATE, WE WILL HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY THE END OF THIS MONTH TO GO OVER MUCH THE SAME GROUND WITH DR. GEYER IN CONNECTION WITH KORNBLUM'S VISIT. IT MAY BE THAT WE WILL GET SOME IDEA OF WHERE AND HOW THE GDR WISHES TO MOVE IN OUR BILATERAL RELATIONS, SINCE THE GEYER/KORNBLUM MEETING WILL PROBABLY TAKE PLACE AFTER THE GENERAL FOREIGN POLICY REVIEW FOR WHICH AMBASSADOR SIEBER WAS CALLED TO EAST BERLIN.
POLANSKY

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: FOREIGN RELATIONS, DETENTE, BERLIN QUADRIpartite MATTERS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 23-Mar-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977BERLIN05585
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770101-0005
Format: TEL
From: BERLIN
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770333/aaaabbus.tel
Line Count: 244
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 8dacaab3-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 5
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 BERLIN 5535, 77 STATE 61229
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 04-Feb-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3029027
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: LUNCH WITH DEPUTY FOREIGN MINISTER GRUNERT
TAGS: PFOR, US, GC, (GRUNERT, HORST)
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/8dacaab3-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009